

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02766 021051Z

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 /026 W

-----021054Z 091971 /17

R 020951Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2906

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 2766

DEPARTMENT FOR A/SY/FO

KARACHI FOR RSS

PRETORIA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, SY

SUBJECT: BAGHDAD COVERAGE - SECURITY

REF: STATE 94471

1. THE SPEED IN OBTAINING AN IRAQI VISA IS UNPREDICTABLE. FEW OFFICIAL AMERICANS HAVE TRAVELED TO BAGHDAD FROM DAMASCUS, BUT THOSE WHO HAVE HAVE EXPERIENCED RATHER LONG DELAYS IN OBTAINING VISAS. ON THE OTHER HAND, ONE AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN RECEIVED IRAQI VISA IN SEVERAL HOURS.

2. DUE TO RECENT SYRIAN AIR'S WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FLIGHTS TO IRAQ, ONLY TWO FLIGHTS A WEEK NOW LEAVE DAMASCUS FOR BAGHDAD (EGYPT AIR).

3. POST HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO RSO TAKING OVER SECURITY  
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR U.S. INTEREST SECTION AND BELIEVE RSO DAMASCUS WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT BAGHDAD FOR ROUTINE SECURITY COVERAGE (SURVEYS, TRAINING, INVESTIGATION, ETC.) HOWEVER, A QUICK RESPONSE TO AN EMERGENCY WOULD PROVE DIFFICULT, GIVEN THE USUAL DELAYS IN VISAS AND LIMITED FLIGHTS TO BAGHDAD.

MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC02766  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770153-0096  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197705105/aaaadmqn.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 4a48e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SY  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 94471  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2334585  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BAGHDAD COVERAGE - SECURITY  
**TAGS:** ASEC, SY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4a48e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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